

UNIVERSITY IN THE NEWS

I – BOĞAZIÇI UNIVERSITY PROTESTS

2021



Photo Credit: Hilmi Hacıoğlu

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“THE LIGHTS WERE NEVER TURNED OFF AT BOĞAZIÇI UNIVERSITY RECTORATE THAT NIGHT”

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1. Introduction

There has been a longstanding struggle between the forces of polyphony, trying to make the world more voiceful, more colorful, more pluralistic, and more festive place, and monologism, desiring the world to be a colorless, monistic, and dull place. We have seen one of the examples of this struggle in recent months as the -ongoing- dispute between Boğaziçi University students, raising their voices against the appointment of a trustee as the rector, and the government representatives; and we continue to observe this dispute. The pro-government media has been trying to discredit, criminalize, marginalize Boğaziçi University students, and legitimize the position of power from the very beginning; and by this way, trying to drown the students' carnival into a dull formality. The aim of this report is to focus on the forms and manifestations of this struggle in the pro-government media and present the analysis of these forms and manifestations in detail.

The first report of our study, which examines how student protests and activist students are represented and approached, will be on Boğaziçi University protests, which took place in the first months of 2021. Our main goal in this and the following reports is to focus on how student protests and students are represented and framed, and the discursive patterns in these news articles.

Although news claims to be an objective transfer of what is happening, it is the product of a series of choices and preferences. A series of ideological, political, cultural, economic, or professional elements and determinants play important roles in the process ranging from what will be the news to how it will be reported. News frames an issue in a particular way, and these frames are closely related to the positions, backgrounds, experiences of the writers and editors and wider power and interest relations in which they are involved. Frames include choosing and paying attention; defining a problem in a certain way; suggesting cause and effect relationships; making moral judgements and selecting parts of perceived reality to enable the preferred moral judgement to be made and making it more significant in a communicative text.

While examining Boğaziçi University protests as the subject of this study, we tried to understand how the issue is framed. How Boğaziçi University protests are defined in news; who are the protestors according to the news, what and who are they? How are the actors defined? What are their “main purposes”? Why did these events happen and how did they come to this point? Who is right and who is wrong? What should be done? We examined how the news published in pro-government publications (*A Haber, Akşam, Yeni Şafak, Takvim, Sabah* and *Yeni Akit*) answer all these questions; in other words, how they frame Boğaziçi University protests.

To carry out the framing analysis, we collected all the news about Boğaziçi University protests in the newspapers mentioned above, published between January 4 and March 31, 2021, and put them through content analysis. In addition to the content analysis, we also examined the discursive structures of some of the news we found striking. There is no easy and single definition of discourse. Discourse classifies, entitles, and situates social events, actors, subjects, phenomena..., produces knowledge and opinion regarding these things; they are institutionalized and established forms of speech and expression that exercise power and restraint on these things. Discourse is the act of creating meaning through language and other symbolic systems in a certain situation or setting. The patterns, commonalities, and connections that we encounter constantly in various texts are what constitutes the discourse.

In the discourse analysis part of the research, we focused on the linguistic strategies, denominations, metaphors, adjectives, phrases used in the news and the patterns they formed about Boğaziçi University protests. We observed some of 353 news pieces closely that we think they represent prominent patterns.

What happened?

The events started with the appointment of Melih Bulu, who is not a faculty member of Boğaziçi University, as the rector by President Recep Tayyip Erdoğan in January 2021. The appointment of someone from outside the university as the rector, who is known for his affinity with the government but whose scientific career is full of question marks, was challenged with the objection “We do not want a trustee rector”. In fact, it was not the first time that this slogan resonated in Boğaziçi University.

Let us go back a little while first...

The rector elections in Turkey removed twice. The first happened after the military coup in 1980 and the second after the coup attempt on 15 July 2016. Even before the elections were removed in 2016, it cannot be said that the rector elections were democratic. Only faculty members, not all members of the university, could vote in the elections. The highest rated six candidates were presented to the Higher Education Institution (YÖK), and YÖK submitted three of these six candidates to the president as a list. In this system, the result was the appointment of other names as rectors instead of the candidates with the highest number of votes. When the system operates like this, Recep Tayyip Erdoğan as the president appointed rectors to 74 universities where the elections were held. However, he did not appoint the highest rated candidates as rector in at least 29 of these universities.

The last rector elections in Boğaziçi University were held on 12 July 2016. Current rector Prof. Dr. Gülay Barbarosoğlu received 87 percent of the votes. Appointment was never made. While awaiting appointment, with the Legislative Decree published on October 29, 2016, the rector elections was removed. The new regulation envisaged skipping the elections and the president’s appointment of one of three candidates, submitted by YÖK.

After this change made to remove the elections, the expected appointment to Boğaziçi University was made after four months. Erdoğan appointed Prof. Dr. Mehmed Özkan as rector, who did not participate in the rector elections and who also served as Barbarasoğlu's assistance to the rector.

Academics and students made public statements and protests demanding the appointment of the elected rector. The slogan “We do not want a trustee rector” resonated in the campus for the first time in 2016. During the ongoing process, the fact that Mehmed Özkan is someone from Boğaziçi University made this appointment somehow “acceptable”. On the first day of 2021, Erdoğan appointed Melih Bulu as rector.

Melih Bulu was someone outside the university. Although he completed his master's and doctorate degrees at Boğaziçi University, he served as a faculty member and rector at different universities. In addition to all of these, he was affiliated with the Justice and Development Party. He was the founder of the AK Party Sarıyer District Organization in 2002, and AK Party Istanbul 1st district parliamentary candidate in 2015. Along with his appointment, plagiarisms in his doctoral dissertation also came to the fore. Although Melih Bulu declared that “the only problem is that I have not place the quotes in inverted commas”, this declaration did not change the actual name of what he did.

Boğaziçi University members have been protesting Melih Bulu's appointment as the rector of Boğaziçi University since January 4, demanding his resignation and re-election. The academics turn their backs on the rectorate building, the students repeat their demands with various activities both in and out of the campus. “Nothing will happen to the friends who are here today. We are in a democratic environment. I am happy now” Bulu said on the first day of the protests. However, what happened afterwards was different. Students were detained, 11 of them were arrested, and disciplinary investigations were opened for many of them.

2.The scope and methodology of the research

Within the scope of the study, we scanned all the news about Boğaziçi University protests in *A Haber*, *Akşam*, *Yeni Şafak*, *Calendar*, *Sabah* and *Yeni Akit* between January 4 and March 31 and collected 353 news. We carried out a content analysis by coding all collected news on an individual basis with a detailed coding scale. We also carried out a discourse analysis on a smaller number of news pieces, which we think represent the patterns encountered in the news. We answered each of the following questions for 353 news pieces reviewed.

- What is the tone of the news? (positive, negative, neutral)
- What is the predominant theme of the news? (terror, provocation, disrespect for religious values, crime, vandalism, perversion)
- Whose voice is heard in the news? (student, academician, rectorate, prosecutor's office, governorship, police, government, opposition, etc.)
- How are the students defined? (student, terrorist, provocateur, suspect, so-called student, activist / demonstrator / protester, vandal, pervert)

-
- Who is targeted in the news? (student, students, academicians, supporters, LGBTI + people, opposition parties etc.)
 - Do the news contain the demands of the students?

We examined the discursive structures of the news underlining each question and setting examples as we think. In the discourse analysis we dealt with the patterns of meaning and the linguistic strategies used.

If we briefly summarize the general findings of the study, it is possible to observe that most of the news are negative; the predominant theme in the news is 'provocation'; the actors whose voice is heard the most in the news is government representatives; and students are the most targeted actors in the news. Even these general findings alone demonstrate us that the pro-government media evidently approaches Boğaziçi University protests in a one-sided and partisan manner. While it is observed in the news that all the discourse and actions of the law enforcement forces acting through the directives of the government and the power are unquestionably legitimized, the protesters are systematically criminalized, demonized and treated as enemies.

3. Analyses of the news

3.1. The tone of the news

In the first step of the analysis, we examined the tone of the news. We categorized the news as negative, positive, and neutral. We observed that 342 of 353 news pieces are in negative tone, while the remaining 11 are in neutral tone. Not a single positive toned news is found among all examined.

We observed that 342 of 353 news pieces examined are in negative tone

Negative-toned news corresponds to the types of news targeting protests and students, where themes such as “accusation”, “provocation”, “perversion” predominate, including none of the students' demands, and sharing accusing statements of the official sources. In these news items, the discourses of university members cannot find place and this deficiency is reinforced with related visuals. In these news pieces, there are also examples in which students are identified as “provocateur” in the title and “pervert” in the content.



“Arrest requests for the provocateurs at Boğaziçi University. The chief prosecutor had acted! Arrest requests for Boğaziçi perverts” Sabah, 30.1.2021

Among the examples are the news where expressions like “provoking attempt” and “attempt to mobilize the youth” are repeatedly used and the names of organizations and political parties are listed, resembling a noun chain.

Boğaziçi provokasyonu ifşa oldu! Bot hesaplarda DHKP-C, FETÖ, PKK, CHP ve HDP işbirliği gözler önüne serildi

Başkan Recep Tayyip Erdoğan'ın Prof. Dr. Melih Bulu'yu Boğaziçi Üniversitesi'ne rektör olarak atamasının ardından CHP, HPD ve FETÖ asılsız iddialarla provokasyona girişti. CHP İstanbul İl Başkanı Canan Kaftancıoğlu bölgeye gelerek kışkırtma çabalarına girişirken PKK marşları söylendi. CHP'li Ekrem İmamoğlu'nun paylaşımları sonrası Twitter'da bot hesaplar hep bir ağızdan kopya paylaşımlarla gençleri örgütlemeye çalıştı. Böylece DHKPC, FETÖ, PKK, CHP ve HDP güdümlü troll ordusu ifşa oldu.

“Boğaziçi provocation has been exposed! DHKP-C, FETÖ, PKK, CHP and HDP cooperation was revealed in bot accounts” A Haber, 5.1.2021

Although there are no direct negative expressions in the news language, we also evaluated the news that convey the protests only from the perspective of the power, directly include solely and mostly the statements of the government representatives, and / or highlight these statements in the news headline in the category of negative toned news. For example, the news conveying the statements of Interior Minister Süleyman Soylu directly under the heading [“Flash statement by Süleyman Soylu on Boğaziçi University”](#) found its place in this category.

Süleyman Soylu'dan son dakika Boğaziçi Üniversitesi açıklaması

İçişleri Bakanı Süleyman Soylu, Boğaziçi'ne Prof. Melih Bulu'nun rektör olarak atanmasının ardından başlayan eylemlere ilişkin yaptığı açıklamada, “Birileri gezi hevesliği içerisinde. Buna bizim müsaade etmemiz söz konusu değildir.” dedi.

“Flash statement by Süleyman Soylu on Boğaziçi University. ‘Some people are eager for repeating Gezi. It is not possible for us to allow this’” Yeni Akit, 10.02.2021

Examples of **neutral news** are in general relatively non-commented content about detentions and arrests. The news titled [“4 people detained in Kadıköy due to the protests at Boğaziçi University were arrested”](#) is one of the news considered neutral due to the lack of negative discourse regarding the arrested students.

POLİTİKA

Boğaziçi Üniversitesi'ndeki olaylar sebebiyle Kadıköy'de gözaltına alınan 4 kişi tutuklandı

İstanbul Kadıköy'de Boğaziçi Üniversitesi eylemlerinde gözaltına alınan 6 şüpheliden 4'ü tutuklanırken, 2 şüpheli adli kontrol şartıyla serbest bırakıldı.

Haber Merkezi · 07 Şubat 2021, 10:42 · Son Güncelleme: 07 Şubat 2021, 10:48 · DHA



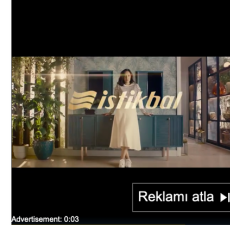
Boğaziçi Üniversitesi'ndeki olaylar sebebiyle Kadıköy'de gözaltına alınan 4 kişi tutuklandı.

BEĞENDİM

8 TEPKİ

YORUM KAYDET PAYLAŞ

ÖNERİLEN VIDEO



Dışişleri Bakanı Çavuşoğlu'ndan Yunan mevkidaşı Dendias'a sert tepki: Türkiye'ye yönelik ithamları asla kabul etmeyiz

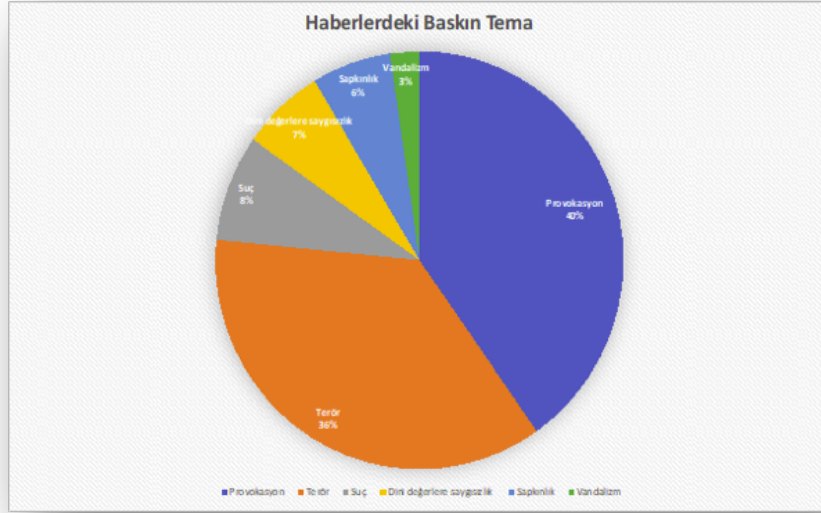
Dışişleri Bakanı Mevlüt Çavuşoğlu ve Yunanistan Dışişleri Bakanı Nikos Dendias ortak basın toplantısında konuştu. Dendias'ın Türkiye'ye yönelik açıklamalarına sert tepki gösteren Bakan Çavuşoğlu, 'Ben konuşmamda Yunanistan'ı itham...

Yeni Şafak, 7.2.2021

We defined the news that do not target students while including the demands and words of them and that convey witness statements as well as official statements as **positive**; however, we did not encounter any news conforming to this definition among 353 articles.

3.2. The predominant theme in the news

We searched for what the predominant theme is in the analyzed news and observed that 6 themes arise: provocation, terror, crime, disrespect for religious values, perversion, and vandalism. Although more than one theme can be encountered together in a news piece, we focused on the most prominent theme, which occupies the broadest space in the news in terms of volume and emphasis. We discovered that the most predominant theme in 353 articles analyzed is provocation with 122 news pieces. Provocation theme was followed by “terror” with 110 news pieces. The predominant theme is “crime” in 25 articles, “disrespect for religious values” in 20, “perversion” in 19, and “vandalism” in 7.



In the category of **provocation**, it is emphasized that the main purpose behind the protests is to create trouble and provoke; the election of the rector is not at all an issue for the activists defined as provocateurs; students are “provoked” and “used”. In the news where this theme predominates, the protests are “provocation”, “perception operation”, “agitation”; the students are “provocateurs”, and the motive behind is defined as “to create trouble on the streets as if it is second Gezi protests” and “stir up trouble in the entire Turkey”. Covered with a conspiratory manner, the emphasis on the implications as the hidden forces and bad intentions behind the protests is not missing in these news pieces. Even some news stating that Boğaziçi University resembles CIA station were encountered.



*“An attempt to invade Boğaziçi. A handful of minorities. Faculty members perverts lutists biscuit children. The provocateurs challenging the state at a state university use immature kids as tin soldiers for leading a chaos”
Takvim, 1.2.2021*

The news piece where all expressions as “a handful of minorities”, “perverted lutists”, “biscuit children”, “invasion attempt” gathered in a single visual summarizes the general attitude of the news in this category. On the one hand, this news makes the targeted group other and enemy; on the other hand, approaches them as the passive and easily manipulated actors and ignores their wills and demands.



“It is revealed that the students were manipulated via WhatsApp. Dangerous provocation” Sabah, 5.1.2021

The news piece titled “It is revealed that the students who so-called protested Melih Bulu, appointed as the rector of Boğaziçi University, were manipulated via Whatsapp” emphasizes that the students were “manipulated” and there were other forces behind the protests. In some news, this conspiratorial logic even went so far as to define Boğaziçi University as a CIA station.

Boğaziçi CIA üssü gibi çalışmış! Akademisyen görünümlü ajanlar Türkiye aleyhine sinsi faaliyetler yürütmüş

Boğaziçi Üniversitesi'ne yerli ve milli rektör atanmasını bahane ederek ülkemizi yangın yerine çevirmek isteyenlerin perde arkasındaki gücü deşifre ediyoruz. Robert Koleji ve Boğaziçi Üniversitesi'nin temelini atan Cyrus Hamlin'in ABD'nin önde gelen misyonerlerinden biri olduğu, sonra dönemlerde Boğaziçi'nde görev alan John Scott Everton, Prof. Dr. Sumner Boyd, Charles Gilchrist, Mary Nadi, John Freely gibi birçok rektör ve hocanın da CIA ile dirsek teması içerisinde olduğu ortaya çıktı.

“Boğaziçi had worked like a CIA station! Academician-looking agents had carried out activities to the detriment of Turkey” (Yeni Akit, 11.2.2021)

As in the news titled [“Sözcü’s false news exploded in its hand again! Reputational assassination to Boğaziçi University Rector Melih Bulu”](#), in some news pieces the statements in the direction of that the students “exceeded the limits of criticism” are listed since the students did not accept a chocolate. Constituting an interesting example of dramatization, the “unjust treatment” that Gazioğlu encountered visiting to support Melih Bulu with a box of chocolate as gift and offering it to the students but being rejected by them is the subject in this news. In the news, what Gazioğlu experienced is presented in detail along with dramatic elements and visuals (as if it is a family photo), which is noteworthy.

Melih Bulu ile 2000'de Türkiye Yüksek Teknoloji Grubu'ndaki faaliyetleri sırasında tanıştıklarını belirten Gazioğlu, "Dostlar bugünler içindir. Yanında olduğumu göstermek istedim. Güzel bir pastaneden çikolata almıştım. Melih hocama 'Gelirken gördüğüm çocuklar üşümüşlerdir. Yanlış anlamazsanız size getirdiğim çikolataları öğrencilere de ikram etmek istiyorum' deyince kabul etti. Ben de öğrenci oldum. Eleştirmek herkesin hakkı ama bu şekilde nefretle halkı bölerek, ayrıştırarak olmaz. Fikir özgürlüğünü savunan gençler beni hiç konuşurmadılar. Kendimi ifade etmeme izin vermediler. Videoda görülüyor. Bana söylenenlere hoşgörülü biçimde, gülerek, el sallıyorum" dedi.

A haber, 14.2.2021

Provocation-themed news not only appeared in the press, but also, they were used as a basis for the indictments prepared by the prosecution regarding the protests.

After the [news](#) conveying the expressions "The protests held at Boğaziçi University witnessed a great provocation. In the university, where groups of people danced halay together with DHKP-C anthem before, Kaaba photo was laid on the ground and LGBT rag were put on it this time" (Yeni Şafak, 29.1.2021) appeared, an investigation was initiated. In the indictment, where the twitter address of this news in the first sentence, imprisonment of up to three years was requested for seven students, two of whom were detained, based upon the exhibition.



Yeni Şafak, 29.1.2021

SORUŞTURMA EVRAKI İNCELENDİ:

Yeni Şafak Gazetesinin Twitter hesabından "https://twitter.com/yenisafak/status/1355177561626726404?ref_src=twsrc%5Egoogle%7Ctwcamp%5Eserp%7Ctwgr%5Etweet " link adresinden yapılan "Boğaziçi Üniversitesi'nde düzenlenen protestolar büyük bir provokasyona sahne oldu. Daha önce DHKP-C marşı eşliğinde halay çeken grupların sahneye çıktığı üniversitede bu kez Kabe fotoğrafı yere serilip üzerine LGBT paçavrası yerleştirildi" şeklinde yapılan paylaşımda belirtilen olay ile ilgili olarak Cumhuriyet Başsavcılığımızca resen başlatılan soruşturmada;

We observed that in the news where **terror** is the predominant theme the students or people alleged to be not students and participated in the action are defined as “terrorists”. As a basis for this definition allegations such as “singing the anthem of a terrorist organization” and “sharing terror pieces on social media” are asserted. Especially after the detentions, the statements by the government representatives and governorships stating “there are people affiliated with terrorism among them” frequently appeared in these news pieces. On the other hand, people's social media posts were also treated as “evidence” that they are linked to terrorism. And this led to the targeting and blacklisting of social media users and social media accounts.

While the opposition parties are often positioned as “organizing terrorists”, it is written that those who participated in the protests are “terrorists”, “militants” or at least “affiliated with terrorism” rather than students as supposed. Parties and organizations such as CHP, HDP, DHKP-C, MLKP and PKK are often reflected in the same sentence, in alliance, or at least as part of the same political agenda.



“She supported Boğaziçi University protests that HDP and CHP initiated by organizing the terrorists. CHP mobilized the terrorists and HDP supported them” A haber, 6.1.2021



NE OLMUŞTU?

Boğaziçi Üniversitesi'ne rektör olarak Prof. Dr. Melih Bulu'nun atanmasını bahane eden ve başını CHP, HDP ile PKK, DHKP-C, MLKP'nin çektiği gruplar üniversite eylemlere başladılar. Her fırsatta polise saldıran gruplar daha sonra eylemler sırasında Kabe resminin üzerine şahmeran figürü ve LGBT paçavrası yerleştirerek halkın dini duygularına hakaret ettiler.

Takvim, 4.2.2021

Güncel 05.01.2021 10:57 - Son Güncelleme: 05.01.2021 14:37 ABONE OL Google News

SON DAKIKA: Boğaziçi Üniversitesi'nde polisler saldıranlar MLKP'li çıktı

Son dakika haberi: İçişleri Bakan Yardımcısı İsmail Çataklı bilgilendirme toplantısında dün Boğaziçi Üniversitesi'nde "katil polis üniversiteden defol" sloganlarıyla ilgili de konuştu. Bakan Yardımcısı Çataklı "Polislerimize katil denmesini bizim kabul edebilmemiz ve buna sessiz kalmamız mümkün değildir." diyerek sert tepki gösterdi. CHP'li Gökçen Gökçe de Boğaziçi Üniversitesi'ndeki eylemlerle ilgili Gezi Parkı eylemleri çağırısı yaparak yayınladığı videoda "Er yada geç geri adım atılacak. Bu düzenin devam etmesi zaten söz konusu değil. Boğaziçi'nde gördüğümüz birliktelik, dayanışma Gezi'de gördüğümüz gibi artarak devam edecek." ifadelerini kullandı. MLKP ile bağlantısı tespit edilenlerle ilgili İstanbul Valiliği'nden yapılan son dakika açıklamasında 2911 sayılı Toplantı ve Gösteri Yürüyüşleri Kanunu'na muhalefet eden ve polise karşı mukavemet gösterdiği tespit edilen 28 kişinin yakalanmasına yönelik operasyonlarda, 2'si Boğaziçi Üniversitesi öğrencisi 17 kişinin gözaltına alındığını, 11 firarının yakalanması için çalışmaların devam ettiğini bildirdi.

"NEWSFLASH: The ones who attacked the police at Boğaziçi University were revealed as MLKP supporters" Takvim, 5.1.2021

The news we categorized as **crime** are generally about detention and arrest. Students are described as “suspects” in the news, which do not convey the way the students were detained, the time of their detentions, and what they encountered in detention.

In these news pieces, the students are criminalized by using the words “confirmed to have committed the crimes” and “culprit”. For example, these expressions are used in the news titled “New operation in İstanbul related to the protests at Boğaziçi University: many people were detained” and highlighted as “Newsflash”:

*“Operations were initiated to catch the protestors who issued a press release and made a demonstration under the heading of ‘**We do not want a trustee rector in our university**’ are found to have committed the crimes of ‘**opposing the Law No. 2911**’ and ‘**resisting the officer**’.” (Takvim, 6.1.2021)*

Similar expressions appear in the news including the statements supporting the students. One of these news titled “**CHP chairperson Kemal Kılıçdaroğlu defended the students who attacked the police vehicles**” conveying the statements of Kılıçdaroğlu includes these expressions:

“Groups planning to initiate a second Gezi uprising through Boğaziçi University tried to create the perception that the security forces were using disproportionate force by disseminating disinformation and manipulation, especially in social media, along with the support they received from abroad. The activists, including people with terrorist affiliations, attacked police vehicles in Kadıköy the previous evening and broke their windows.” (Takvim, 4.2.2021)

The theme of **disrespect for religious values** come forward in the news about the art exhibition opened at Boğaziçi University campus, where the image of the Kaaba with a Basilisk figure placed on it together with LGBTI + flags in the corners. The newspapers harshly accused the students of insulting the religious values of people and disrespecting the image of the Kaaba. These accusations led to the students’ arrestments and their punishments with home detention. LGBTI + people were targeted in at least 5 of 20 news pieces where the expression “disrespect for the Kaaba” is frequently used.

While defining “disrespect”, the existence of LGBTI + flag named as “LGBTI rag” and the Basilisk figure laid on the ground were used as a basis. The news conveying that those who reacted to the work in the exhibition were “blacklisted” appear in many sources we examined. As can be seen in the news titled [“They have blacklisted the students who react to the disrespect for the Kaaba at Boğaziçi University one by one”](#), while these news are based on contradictions and victimhood, expressions as “days of unity and solidarity” are repeated. In these news pieces, Muslim Students’ statements as “In this process, we and many other Muslim friends who expressed their discomfort about the work did not face any discrimination, lynching or blacklisting” is not included.

The theme of **perversion** became more prominent in the news about LGBTI + flags at the demonstrations and the exhibition. In these news pieces, where expressions such as “LGBT protests”, “perverts”, “rags” for LGBTI + flags are used, LGBTI + people are targeted and hate speech against them is performed.

Giriş Tarihi: 31.1.2021

Boğaziçi sapkınları tutuklandı

“Boğaziçi perverts were arrested” Sabah, 31.1.2021

The expressions in the news we put in this category not only include the words “pervert unruliness”, “LGBT rags”, but are also covered with emphasis such as “will not go unpunished” “not freedom of thought”. Although the statements of the subjects as persons and groups are not contained, a public reaction is frequently repeated.

In the news piece titled [“Let the state ‘stop’ these perverted deviants Reaction to LGBT provocation insulting the Kaaba at Boğaziçi University grows like topsy”](#) these sentences are stated:

“Boğaziçi provocateurs, who turned their actions as supposedly protesting the appointment of the rector into insulting sacred values and support for pervert movements, get reactions from all segments of the society. Politicians and religious NGOs reacting to the laying down of the Kaaba photo and LGBT rags at Boğaziçi University said, ‘This provocation against our sacred values will not go unpunished.’ The public, on the other hand, called for “the state’s intervention on these perverts who besiege our universities and poison our children” (Yeni Akit, 31.1.2021)

Vandalism is another predominant theme in the news. While police violence is not expressed in the news of detentions and arrests, students are described as “vandals” and “vandalism”, claiming that they caused harm.

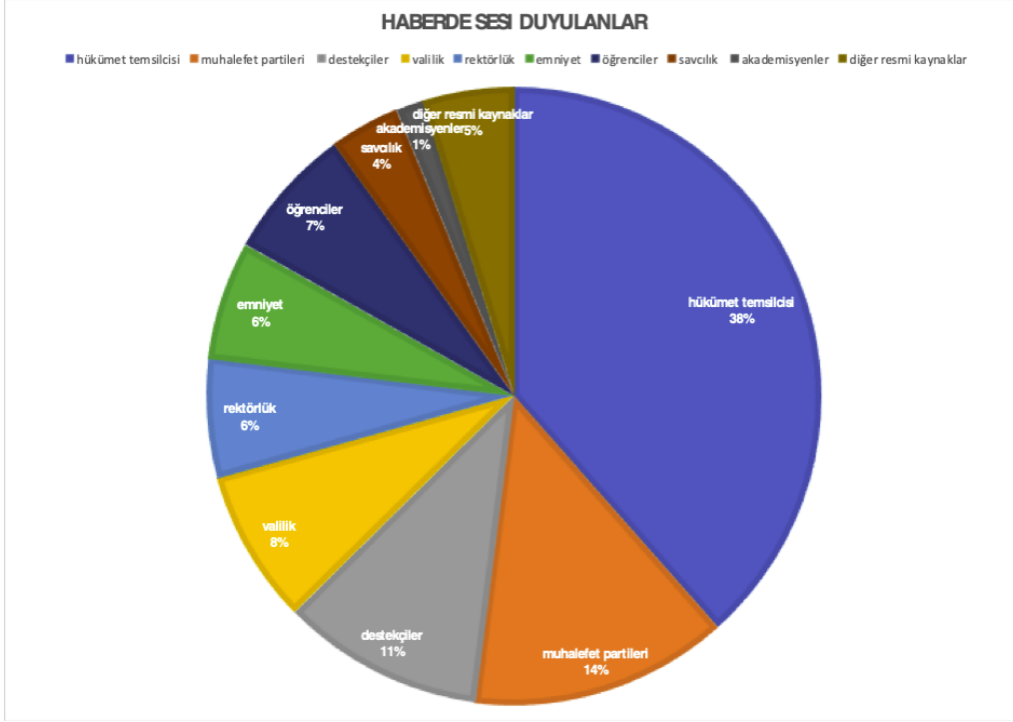


“As can be seen in the news piece titled [“The vandals arrested for damaging police vehicle during Boğaziçi protests in Kadıköy”](#), the subject of accusation is frequently reported with the statement that the crime is charged.

3.3. Whose voice is heard in the news

At this phase of the research, we analyzed whose voice is heard in the news, whose statements are quoted, and we observed that the voices of government representatives are heard the most. In addition, it was also observed that people and institutions other than government representatives (students, academics, supporters, opposition parties, etc.) can be heard, but this is done for targeting, criticizing or defamation unexceptionally.

We encountered that the statements of government representatives or their supporters are included in 105 of the news. In 22 of 105 news contain Recep Tayyip Erdoğan's words directly. We found the statements of governorships in 22 news pieces, Melih Bulu or Boğaziçi University Presidency in 17, police in 17, prosecution office in 10, and other official sources in 13 news.



As in the news piece titled “[President Erdoğan: We will bring our youth to the future, not as the LGBT youth, but as the youth in the nation's glorious history](#)”, the news directly including government representatives’ statements are reported frequently with a negative emphasis.

Cumhurbaşkanı Erdoğan: Gençliğimizi, LGBT gençliği değil tarihten gelen bu milletin o şanlı tarihindeki gençlik olarak ileri taşıyacağız

Cumhurbaşkanı Erdoğan, AK Parti il kongrelerinde açıklamalarda bulundu. Boğaziçi Üniversitesi önünde Kabe fotoğrafının yere serilerek üstüne LGBT paçavrasının konulması gündeme gelmişti. Erdoğan, kongrede bu olaya değinerek şu ifadeleri kullandı: Gençliğimizi, LGBT gençliği değil tarihten gelen bu milletin o şanlı tarihindeki gençlik olarak ileri taşıyacağız.

Haber Merkezi · 01 Şubat 2021, 15:10 · Son Güncelleme: 01 Şubat 2021, 15:17 · Yeni Şafak

Yeni Şafak, 1.2.2021

The subjects or supporters of the protests, on the other hand, are targeted in every piece of news that include their words.

-
- In almost all of 37 news containing the words of the representatives of the opposition parties, these people and their parties are pointed as target.
 - Students are targeted in 17 of 19 news pieces in which their voice is heard; academics are targeted in all news featuring their words; supporters are targeted in 26 of 29 news reports including their statements.
-

3.4. Haberde öğrencinin tanımlanması

Students are described as "provocateurs" in 58 news pieces.

In this part of our report, we will present how students are defined in the news examined.

In 76 of the news, there is the emphasis on the implications that those who participated in the protests are not students along with expressions such as “activists, among which there are students”, “actually not students”, and that students are merely a minority even though they participated in the protests.

Students are defined as “**student**” in 75 of the news, “**provocateur**” in 58, “**terrorist**” in 29, “**so-called student**” in 11, “**activist / demonstrator / protester**” in 16, and “**suspect**” in 24, “**pervert**” in 16, “**children / youth / our youth**” in 7, “**vandal**” in 6, and “**LGBT supporter**” in 2.

Son dakika: 101 şüpheli Boğaziçi Üniversitesi öğrencisi değilmiş!



“The truth was revealed in LGBT provocation. It was supposed that Boğaziçi Students were protesting” Sabah, 2.2.2021

As can be seen in the news title [“Out of 108 suspects detained during the provocative demonstrations at Boğaziçi University, only 7 are Boğaziçi University students.”](#), news articles, emphasizing the implications such as the protestors are actually not students or the number of students is quite narrow, are prevalent.

Sözde öğrenciler militan çıktı. Boğaziçi provokasyonunda gözaltına alınan 36 kişiden 15'i dışarıdan. Yakalananların çoğunun ise örgüt üyeliğinden yargılanmasının sürdüğü öğrenildi

Cumhurbaşkanı Recep Tayyip Erdoğan'ın Prof. Dr. Melih Bulu'yu Boğaziçi Üniversitesi'ne rektör olarak atamasını bahane ederek girişilen provokasyonda ilginç detaylar ortaya çıktı. Gözaltına alınan 36 kişi arasında olan ve öğrenci olduğu iddia edilen 15 kişinin Boğaziçi Üniversitesi ile hiçbir ilişkisinin olmadığı ve bazılarının terör örgütü MLKP ile irtibatlarının bulunduğu tespit edildi. Gözaltına alınanlardan bazılarının da DHKP, MLKP ve Dev Yol'un da aralarında bulunduğu terör örgütlerine üye olma suçlamasıyla yargılanmasının sürdüğü öğrenildi. 36 şüpheli arasında sadece bir kişi Boğaziçi Üniversitesi'ne kayıtlı.

Sabah, 7.1.2021

In the news piece titled “[They are on trial for membership of illegal organization](#)” involves the expressions “The so-called students are revealed as militants. 15 of 36 people detained in Boğaziçi University provocation are from outside of the university. It was heard that most of the detainees are on trial for membership of illegal organization”.

3.5. Who is targeted in the news

The frequency of people and groups targeted in the news necessitated us to create a separate headline about who is targeted.

Students are the most targeted. Students are targeted in 182 of the news. In 16 of 182 news, students are targeted on an individual basis and as a group in 166.

Social media posts of the students are often treated as the subject of targeting.

[“He was released, however her scandal post were revealed”](#) (Takvim, 8.1.2021)



“Now is the time for reckoning. Here is the demanded punishment” A haber, 26.2.2021

In the news piece, regarding an indicted crime, titled “Newsflash: The indictment has been prepared! Flash development about Kaaba provocation at Boğaziçi University” expressions such as “the time for reckoning” are used.

Moreover, in another news article titled “Boğaziçi provocateurs attempt to occupy the rectorate building” all these expressions are involved: “to continue provocation”, “attempt to occupy”, and “to be a terror sympathizer”.

“The provocation of terrorist-oriented forces, using the appointment of the rector as an excuse, continues at Boğaziçi University. The terror sympathizer group attacked the police by marching and then blockaded the rectorate building. Tensions arose between the police and the group, who insisted on the provocation despite the curfew. On the other hand, the casserole people we were closely acquainted at Gezi Park protests haunted.”(A haber, 2.2.2021)

Opposition parties and their representatives are targeted in 166 news items. The most targeted name is Canan Kaftancıoğlu with 54 articles. Among the targeted politicians are Kemal Kılıçdaroğlu, Gökçe Gökçen, Hüda Kaya, Ekrem İmamoğlu and Selahattin Demirtaş.

“Following Prof. Dr. Melih Bulu's appointment to Boğaziçi University as rector, CHP - DHKPC - HDP - PKK sympathizers making trouble and calling the students for creating chaos continue to carry on their provocative actions.” (“Boğaziçi University is not in blockade, your minds are in blockade! They long for a second Gezi betrayal” Takvim, 1.2.2021)



“Reaction by Erdoğan to CHP Istanbul Provincial Chairperson marching with the terrorist anthem: Kaftancıoğlu from CHP is a DHKP-C militant” Yeni Akit 9.1.2021

Supporters are targeted in 85 news.

Gündem

Aşağı bakmayacağız yalanına sığınan sözde sanatçılar PKK'ya sus pus oldu

Boğaziçi Üniversitesi'nde gençlerin kışkırtılmasına destek veren sözde sanatçılar 13 silahsız insanımızın terör örgütü PKK tarafından şehit edilmesine çıt çıkarmadılar.

“The so-called artists sheltered under the lie of we will not look down, became silent to the PKK” Yeni Akit, 14.2.2021

The news titled “The so-called artists sheltered under the lie of we will not look down, became silent to the PKK” involve expressions of “supporting the provocation of young people at Boğaziçi University, the so-called artists kept silent at the martyrdom of 13 of our unarmed people by the terrorist organization PKK”, the artists' photos and their social media posts.

While **LGBTI + people** were targeted, hate speech was not missing. LGBTI + people are targeted in 80 news pieces and some of these news mention LGBTI + associations. Hate speech is common in the news articles.

It is observed in these news items that LGBTI+ movement is frequently associated with “an international conspiracy” and references to “Intentions of creating chaos in Turkey” are made.



“Lesbian Gay Transvestite They defended anything. US and UN were united in hostility on Turkey” Takvim, 4.2.2021

To the photo of the news piece titled “[Scandal created by USA and UN! They defended the LGBT groups that incited Boğaziçi protests](#)” is attached the note “ Lesbian Gay Transvestite They defended anything. US and UN were united in hostility on Turkey”. The news also involves the expression “Provocateurs and LGBT groups attacking the police received support from the administration of Joe Biden, the new president of the USA”.

Boğaziçi Üniversitesi olaylarının detayları ortaya çıkıyor! Kavala LGBT oyunu ile Türkiye'yi karıştırmak istedi

Boğaziçi Üniversitesi olaylarındaki LGBT izlerinin perde arkası aralanıyor. Osman Kavala lezbiyen, gey ve biseksüellerle ilgili çalışmalar yapan dernek ve vakıflara 1 milyon 384 bin 380 TL para yardımında bulunmuştu. Başkan Erdoğan'ın "Osman Kavala denilen, bu ülkede adeta Soros ofisi olan, temsilcisi olan kişinin karısı da yine aynı şekilde Boğaziçi Üniversitesi'nde bu provokatörlerin içinde yer alan bir kadın" sözleri gerçekleri bir kez daha gözler önüne serdi.

Giriş Tarihi: 07.02.2021 13:12
Güncelleme Tarihi: 07.02.2021 13:29

BU ALBÜMÜ PAYLAŞ



ABONE OL



“Details behind Boğaziçi University protests are emerging! Kavala wanted to create chaos in Turkey with his LGBT tricks. Background of LGBT elements at Boğaziçi University protests is being revealed. Osman Kavala donated 1 million 384 thousand 380 TL to associations and foundations working on lesbians, gays, and bisexuals. President Erdoğan's words “the wife of Osman Kavala, who is a Soros office in this country, the representative of Soros, is also a woman who is among these provocateurs at Boğaziçi University” has once again revealed the facts.” A haber, 7.2.2021

While it is stated “Background of LGBT elements at Boğaziçi University protests is being revealed” in the news titled “[Details behind Boğaziçi University protests are emerging! Kavala wanted to create chaos in Turkey with his LGBT tricks](#)”, the associations working in the field of LGBTI+ rights are targeted.

In addition to LGBTI + flags, every object with rainbow colors was reflected as an “element of crime”.

Boğaziçi Üniversitesi'ndeki akademisyenler rektörlüğe sırtını dönüp LGBT bayrağının altına sığındı!

Cumhurbaşkanlığı kararıyla Prof. Dr. Melih Bulu'nun Boğaziçi Üniversitesi'ne rektör olarak atanmasını protesto eden bazı akademisyenler okul içerisinde rektörlüğe sırtlarını dönerek eşcinsel sapkınların (LGBT) kullandığı renklerle açtıkları şemsiyelerin altına sığındı.

"Academics at Boğaziçi University turned their back on the rectorate and took shelter under the LGBT flag! Protesting the appointment of Prof. Dr. Melih Bulu as the rector of Boğaziçi University with a presidential decree, some academics turned their backs to the rectorate in the university and took shelter under the umbrellas with the colors used by gay perverts (LGBT)" Yeni Akit, 27.1.2021

The news item titled "[Academics at Boğaziçi University turned their back on the rectorate and took shelter under the LGBT flag!](#)" targeted academicians and set an example for hate speech directing LGBTI+ people.

Another news targeting LGBTI+ students and opposing party representatives was published with the title of "[fags and militants are in charge](#)" (yeni akit 7.1.2021)

Eşcinsel sapkın İslam'la zıtlıklarını itiraf etti: 'Bundan dolayı bizimle uğraşıyorlar'

Kabe-i Muazzama'ya hadsiz bir hakarete bulunarak Müslümanların sinir uçları ile oynayan LGBTİ'li azgınlara, muhalif medya kucak açtı.

Google News



2021-02-04 17:41:00 - 2021-02-04 17:47:42



"A perverted homosexual confessed: 'They are messing around with us because of this'" Yeni Akit 4.2.2021

In the news piece titled "[A perverted homosexual confessed: 'They are messing around with us because of this'](#)" these expressions come to the forefront:

"In the exhibition held in the South Campus of Boğaziçi University, immoderate insults against Muslims' sacred Kaaba led to a public indignation, and people reacted to homosexual perverts with disproportional anger. Within this angry atmosphere targeting the naughty minority cursed by Islam, it was the opposing media that embraced them."



“LGBTİ provocation! They have grabbed the universities” Yeni Akit, 31.1.2021

In a news article published with a blurred visual from Pride March, “Perverted homosexuals, who benefit from the freedom environment and legal gaps in universities, can make propaganda of their immorality without any legal obstacles.” statement is used.

Academics were targeted in 32 news items. In addition to carrying LGBTI + flags and demonstrating, the allegations that they “provoke the students” are reflected in the news.

Putting the headline “militants, not academics, supporters of terrorism” on the agenda of Erdoğan, where academics are targeted with their names and photographs, is reflected in another news with the headline of “[She provokes activists in Boğaziçi provocations! Akit headlined it and Erdoğan put into words](#)”.



“They are not academicians, but militants supporting terrorism” Yeni Akit

President Erdoğan put the headline of newspaper Akit titled “They are not academicians, but militants supporting terrorism” on the agenda and used important expressions in his declaration regarding the protests at Boğaziçi, into which organizations such as DHKP-C, PKK, FETO and LGBT contributed. These organizations are supported by CHP, HDP and IYI Party, which formed an alliance in the elections. (Yeni Akit, 5.2.2021)



“Boğaziçi’ Protest with LGBTI rags by several academicians!” Yeni Akit, 12.2.2021

As can be seen in the news titled [“Boğaziçi’ Protest with LGBTI rags by several academicians!”](#), expressions such as “several academicians”, “minority academicians” and “LGBTİ perverts” are frequently used together regarding the protest that the academicians has been making since January 4.

“Several academicians who came together at the Boğaziçi University campus wanted Prof. Dr. Melih Bulu to resign. The academicians' usage of colors symbolizing LGBTI perverts caused reactions. Boğaziçi provocateurs, supported by CHP and HDP, along with illegal organizations, continue their protests in the entire country. The ‘student’ protest going beyond the boundaries of the university is also supported by several academics at Boğaziçi University. Minority academicians gathering at campus today, requesting Prof. Dr. Melih Bulu's resignation, used the following statements...”(Yeni Akit, 12.2.2021)

As can be seen in the news piece titled [“What is this language! Insults were littered around at the university called ‘science nest’”](#), academicians were occasionally accused of “agitating the students.”

“Evil groups intending to destroy the unity and solidarity of Turkey and create a chaotic atmosphere, mobilized by taking advantage of the appointment of Melih Bulu as rector to Boğaziçi University. When Bulu got into the official car in front of the rectorate building, the students provoked by the academicians booed him along with



The **press** members-targeting were encountered in the news. Especially the international **press** was among those who are targeted. Press members are targeted in seven news articles.

"Finally, the British Press, Guardian newspaper, justified the uprising initiated by people linked to terrorism by turning the government and the police into the target regarding the protests as Boğaziçi University." (A haber, 4.2.2021)

"BBC and The Economist reporters support substantially to the chaos plan at Boğaziçi University, in which CHP and PKK also show great interest ... Here is the British hand and the chaos plan at Boğaziçi University ..." (A haber, 4.1.2021).

3.6. What is unseen in the news

The **unseen demand** in the news deserved a separate headline.

At the beginning of the protests, the demands were the resignation of Melih Bulu and carrying out the elections. After the closure of Boğaziçi University LGBTI + Studies Club, the police presence on the campus, and the detention and arrest of the students, demand were multiplied. However, these demands are not reflected in the news. Only in 5 out of 353 news, a request for Bulu's resignation is mentioned.

It is stated in 15 news articles that the appointment of the rector was protested, but there are statements such as “the excuse for appointment”, “the appointment started with a protest and then turned into a terrorist act.” Only in 5 of these news pieces, it is mentioned that Melih Bulu's resignation is requested.

In a news article, the statement “[Protested the appointment of a trustee to Boğaziçi University](#)” is given. However, examining this news as a whole, we thought that this issue is “overlooked”.

[“The provocation experienced for days, also strengthened by the emanations of terrorist organizations, using the Prof. Dr. Melih Bulu’s appointment as rector to Boğaziçi University as an excuse...”](#) (Yeni Akit, 13.2.2021)_

The invisible police violence was also noted for its absence in the news.

The police violence faced by the students is reflected in the news as “allegations”. The statements of the detained students about the imposition of naked search are also given with “refutation” explanations.

[“Boğaziçi provocateurs bit on granite! The police department refuted “naked search” allegations with images!”](#) (Takvim, 11.1.2021)_

In this news item, words like immorality and defamation are frequently used.

Gündem

Her türlü ahlaksızlık yolunu zorluyorlar: Boğaziçi provokatörlerinden mide bulandıran iftira

Boğaziçi provokasyonu üniversite sınırlarından sokaklara taşıyan provokatörler, ahlaksızlıkta bütün yolları zorlayarak emniyet güçlerimize iftira atmaya devam ediyorlar.

[“They practice absolutely any way of immorality: Disgusting allegation by Boğaziçi provocateurs”](#) Yeni Akit, 4.2.2021

“While 'Boğaziçi demonstrations' taking place in the streets for the last few days, the security forces patiently warn those who want to create trouble first. After this warning they must intervene. During these interventions, groups resisting the police cause a quarrel. As a result of the quarrels, our police forces are accused of attacking 'activists'.”

Boğaziçi provokatörleri hafif kızarıklık bir el fotoğrafı ile bunu iddia ettiler: Müvekkilim feci şekilde darp edildi

Boğaziçi Üniversitesi provokatörlerinin avukatlarından Engin Kara, hafif kızarıklık bil el fotoğrafı paylaşarak 'müvekkilim feci darp edildi' iddiasında bulundu.

Google News

2021-01-07 17:53:00 - 2021-01-07 17:55:12



“Boğaziçi provocateurs claimed this with a photograph of a slightly reddened hand: My client was badly beaten” (Yeni Akit , 7 .1.2021)

